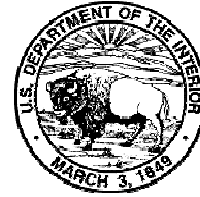


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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New Wildlife Viewing Opportunities

A new opportunity for photography and wildlife observation will be available at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge this March through June. First-come, first-served blinds will be open for use, as well as six new miles of walking trail. This area can be accessed free of charge off Road 68 at Parking Area D (approximately 2 ½ miles east of Highway 99W).

Visitors are asked to register upon arrival to minimize wildlife disturbance to their blind area and so that Refuge staff may evaluate and improve this new program. From the parking area, the mowed and gravel trails can be accessed by foot. Due to some trail areas with uneven surface, walking boots are recommended. Dogs on leashes are also welcome. As the seasonal marsh water is drawn down for habitat management during the summer, water depths will slowly recede. Chest waders or hip boots may be needed to access the blinds only during the spring. Call the Refuge if you would like more information about habitat conditions.

Take advantage of this free recreation opportunity and explore a portion of the Refuge's south side that is typically closed to the public this time of year. Besides excellent spring weather, sights, and sounds, there is no better time to witness ducks, raptors, wading birds, and colorful wildflowers.

For more information, contact:

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www.sacramentovalleyrefuges.fws.gov

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural

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